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Docket No. 2629-4023

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AFINE  
E. Williamson  
8-28-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Lorincz, A. et al. Group Art Unit: 1655  
Serial No. : 09/850,041 Examiner: Myers, Carla  
Filed : May 07, 2001  
For : NON-RADIOACTIVE HYBRIDIZATION ASSAY AND KIT

RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
BOX AF

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed on June 7, 2002, applicants present the following amendment and remarks.

Please amend claims 33, 34, 42-45 as follows:

33. (amended) A solution hybridization kit for the detection of a target nucleic acid sequence for diagnosing genetic defects, microbial or viral infections in a biological sample with an accuracy of at least 89% comprising:

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- a) a sample transport medium for stabilization of the biological sample;
  - b) an unmodified nucleic acid probe complementary to the target nucleic acid sequence for formation of a double-stranded RNA/DNA hybrid;
  - c) a solid phase to which an anti-hybrid antibody or a functional anti-hybrid antibody fragment has been immobilized, wherein the antibody or antibody